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Hanna Tells Panel He Gave Koreans Lobbying Advice

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WASHINGTON, A

Former Representative Richard T. Hanna told the House ethics committee today that he had instructed the South Korean Government on how to lobby in the United States Congress, including instruction on how "to participate in the electoral process."

The California Democrat, who has pleaded guilty to conspiring with the Korean Central Intelligence Agency to defraud the United States and is awaiting sentencing, drew praise today from committee members for what they called his candid testimony. He told the panel that

in 1968 he recommended to the South Koreans that they follow the example of the Nationalist Chinese, Israeli, and Greek lobbies in Washington, but he asserted that he never suggested any illegal activity.

He said that he made the recommendations to Park Chung Hee, the South Korean President, and to Prime Minister Chung Il Kwon and a succession of K.C.I.A. directors. The South Korean Government has denied planning any lobby to influence American policy.

In recounting his financial dealings with Tongsun Park, the South Korean businessman and alleged covert agent, Mr. Hanna conceded that he had erred in using his official capacity to promote Tongsun Park's business and Korean interests.

'Rationalized' Best Interests

He said that it started with friendship for South Korea and with Tongsun Park, grew into financial transactions and finally into actions he "rationalized" were in the best interests of the United

States and California. "There's no way you can wear those kind of hats without getting these things merged," he told the committee.

Mr. Hanna vigorously denied that he ever knew Mr. Park as an agent of the K.C.I.A. or that he ever considered him as such. Mr. Park, he said, contributed to his and other political campaigns from commissions he had earned as a rice broker. He said that he knew Mr. Park wanted to be wealthy, that to be wealthy he needed the help of South Korean Government officials, and that to get that help he spent money on their behalf in the United States.

Meetings With K.C.I.A. Director

Mr. Hanna testified that the conspiracy to which he pleaded guilty began in 1968 and 1969, in two meetings in the office of the director of the K.C.I.A., Kim Hyun Wook. Mr. Kim, who sought political asylum in 1973.

Mr. Hanna said that he told Mr. Kim, in the presence of Tongsun Park, that the South Korean Government needed to

have better relations with the American Congress and said he described how other foreign countries "participated in the electoral process" and suggested how the Koreans might do the same. That included making campaign contributions, he said.

But he asserted that he said the contributions should not come directly from the Government of South Korea, which would have been illegal. Instead, he said, he suggested that campaign financing come from legally organized lobbies.

Mr. Hanna said that he went into the lobbying plan in more depth in another meeting with Mr. Kim in early 1969. But he denied a statement by Mr. Kim that he, Mr. Hanna, was to distribute money to Congressmen.

Mr. Hanna recounted the amounts of money he received from Mr. Park from 1969 through 1975, with only one difference in what has been reported. He said that a payment of \$16,000 in 1970 was \$2,000.